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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/656,131	09/06/2000	Hiroshi Yamaguchi	Q59329	9189	
7590 09/20/2006			EXAMINER		
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC			RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT		
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037-3202			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
,			2621		

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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			EXAMINER	
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			ART UNIT	PAPER
				20060912

DATE MAILED:

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**Commissioner for Patents** 

Andy S. Rag

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## Response to Reply Brief

1. The Reply Brief submitted on 8/1/06 has been noted and considered, but the Examiner feels that no further comment is deemed necessary. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Appeals.

## Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (571)-272-7337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571)-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andy S. Rao Primary Examiner

ANDY RAO PRIMARY EXAMINER

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asr

September 12, 2006